



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 31, 1997

S. 1219

Pfiesteria Research Act of 1997

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on October 29, 1997*

SUMMARY

S. 1219 would authorize appropriations totaling \$5 million for each of fiscal years 1998 and 1999 to a number of federal agencies to establish a research program for the eradication or control of *Pfiesteria piscicida* and other aquatic toxins, and to make grants to colleges, universities, and other entities in affected states for this purpose. *Pfiesteria piscicida* is a single-celled marine organism that has been implicated as a cause of fish kills.

CBO estimates that implementing S. 1219 would result in discretionary spending of \$10 million over the 1998-2000 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts. To date, \$3 million has been appropriated for 1998. S. 1219 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. S. 1219 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would not impose any costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

For the purposes of this estimate, CBO assumes that all amounts authorized in S. 1219 would be appropriated and that outlays would follow the historical spending patterns of similar programs. The estimated budgetary impact of S. 1219 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget functions 300 (natural resources and environment), 350 (agriculture), and 550 (health).

By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Spending Under Current Law					
Budget Authority ^a	3	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	1	1	1	0	0
Proposed Changes					
Authorization Level	2	5	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	1	3	3	0	0
Spending Under S. 1219					
Authorization Level	5	5	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	2	4	4	0	0

a. The 1998 level is the amount appropriated for that year. (No funds were appropriated for Pfiesteria research in 1997.)

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1219 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would not impose any costs on state, local, or tribal governments. Public colleges and universities in states affected by aquatic toxins would be eligible for research grants from funds authorized by the bill.

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